





Docket No.: T2131-906639

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: :
Steve MERCER et al. : Group Art Unit: 2831
Serial No.: 09/690,997 :
Filed: October 18, 2000 :
For: MODULAR BACKPLANE FOR :
INDUSTRIAL COMPUTERS :
McLean, Virginia
July 11, 2001

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington DC 20231

Sir:

Please amend the subject application, as indicated below:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

After the title and before the first paragraph on page 1, insert the following heading at the left-hand margin:

--CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION--

insert the following new paragraph at the left-hand margin:

--The subject matter of this invention is related to Provisional Application Serial No. 60/219,013, filed July 19, 2000. The subject matter of said application is hereby incorporated by reference.--;